In the Claims

The claims in the case are:

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1. [Currently amended] A system for serving graphics for display at a browser, comprising:

   a graphics server;

   a database for storing graphic effects parameters;

   a cache;

   said browser including a display;

   said graphics server for serving a document to an edit screen on said display;

   said graphics server responsive to a user activating an insert graphic command with a cursor positioned <u>by said user</u> at an insertion point <u>anywhere within said document</u> for serving to said browser an insert graphics screen for user selection of said graphic effects

14   parameters;

15   said graphics server responsive to said user completing

16   said selection of said graphic effects parameters for

17   serving said document to said display with said graphic

18   image at said insertion point;

19   said server being operable for storing graphics and

20   text received from said browser as an image in said

21   cache and said parameters for said image in said

22   database; and

23   said server being further operable responsive to a

24   request from a requesting browser for selectively

25   serving to said requesting browser for display said

26   image from said cache and, if not found in said cache,

27   for generating anew said image from said parameters

28   stored in said database by constructing a background

29   object, constructing a font object, constructing text

30   graphics, applying graphic effects from said database,

31   and combining said background object, said font object,

32   said text graphics, and said graphic effects to form

33   said image.

2. [Original] The system of claim 1, said graphics server being operable for storing in said database, and making available to any of a plurality of browsers, parameters for reconstituting a plurality of screen display images.

3. [Withdrawn]

4. [Withdrawn]

5. [Currently amended] A method for serving an image to a browser screen, comprising the steps of:

maintaining a cache of cached images;

maintaining a data base of default parameters;

serving a document to an edit panel on said screen;

responsive to a user activating an insert graphic command with a cursor positioned at an insertion point at any user selected position in said document for serving to said browser an insert graphics text screen for user selection of said graphic effects parameters;

11   responsive to said user completing said selection of

12   said graphic effects parameters for serving said

13   document to said screen with said graphic image at said

14   insertion point;

15   receiving a graphic request locator for said insert

16   graphics text screen;

17   hashing said graphic request locator to form a string

18   number; and

19   examining cache for a cached image with a matching

20   string number, and if found, serving said cached image

21   to said browser screen; and, if not found, parsing said

22   graphic request locator for graphic parameters and

23   constructing from said graphic parameters and

24   selectively from said default parameters a

25   reconstructed image for serving to said browser.

1   6.   [Original]   The method of claim 5, further comprising

2   the steps of maintaining a database of graphic parameters,

3   and responsive to receiving a graphic request locator which

4   does not hash to a string number found in said cache,

5   parsing said graphic request locator for the location in

6   said database of graphic parameters for said graphic

7   parameters for reconstructing said image for serving to said

8   browser.

1   7.   [Original]   The method of claim 5, said step for

2   constructing a reconstructed image further comprising the

3   steps of:

4   constructing a background object;

5   constructing a font object;

6   constructing text graphics;

7   applying graphic effects from said database; and

8   combining said background object, said font object,

9   said text graphics, and said graphic effects to form

10   said image.

1   8.   [Original]   The method of claim 7, said graphic effects

2   selectively including blurring, shadowing, animation and

3   transparency effects.

9. [Original] The method of claim 8, said animation effects selectively including fade in, fade out, fade in/out, undulation, and slide.

10. [Original] The method of claim 9, said slide effects selectively including in, out, loop, up, and down.

11. [Currently amended] A program storage device readable by a machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by a machine to perform method steps for serving an image to a browser screen, said method steps comprising:

maintaining a cache of cached images;

maintaining a data base of default parameters;

serving a document to an edit panel on said screen;

responsive to a user activating an insert graphic command with a cursor positioned at an insertion point at any user selected position in said document for serving to said browser an insert graphics text screen for user selection of said graphic effects parameters;

13 responsive to said user completing said selection of

14 said graphic effects parameters for serving said

15 document to said screen with said graphic image at said

16 insertion point;

17 receiving a graphic request locator;

18 hashing said graphic request locator to form a string

19 number; and

20 examining cache for a cached image with a matching

21 string number, and if found, serving said cached image

22 to said browser screen and, if not found, parsing said

23 graphic request locator for graphic parameters and

24 constructing from said graphic parameters and

25 selectively from said default parameters a

26 reconstructed image for serving to said browser by

27 constructing a background object, constructing a font

28 object, constructing text graphics, applying graphic

29 effects from said database, and combining said

30 background object, said font object, said text

31 graphics, and said graphic effects to form said image.

1   12. [Currently amended] An article of manufacture

2 comprising:

3   a computer useable medium having computer readable

4 program code means embodied therein for serving an

5 image to a browser screen, the computer readable

6 program means in said article of manufacture

7 comprising:

8   computer readable program code means for causing a

9 computer to effect maintaining a cache of cached

10 images;

11   computer readable program code means for causing a

12 computer to effect maintaining a data base of default

13 parameters;

14   computer readable program code means for serving a

15 document to an edit panel on said screen;

16   computer readable program code means responsive to a

17 user activating an insert graphic command with a cursor

18 positioned at an insertion point <u>at any user selected</u>

19 <u>position in said document</u> for serving to said browser

20 an insert graphics text screen for user selection of
21 said graphic effects parameters;

22 computer readable program code means responsive to said
23 user completing said selection of said graphic effects
24 parameters for serving said document to said screen
25 with said graphic image at said insertion point;

26 computer readable program code means for causing a
27 computer to effect receiving a graphic request locator;

28 computer readable program code means for causing a
29 computer to effect hashing said graphic request locator
30 to form a string number; and

31 computer readable program code means for causing a
32 computer to effect examining cache for a cached image
33 with a matching string number, and if found, serving
34 said cached image to said browser screen; and, if not
35 found, parsing said graphic request locator for graphic
36 parameters and constructing from said graphic
37 parameters and selectively from said default parameters
38 a reconstructed image for serving to said browser by
39 constructing a background object, constructing a font

40 object, constructing text graphics, applying graphic

41 effects from said database, and combining said

42 background object, said font object, said text

43 graphics, and said graphic effects to form said image.

1 13. [Currently amended] A computer program product or

2 computer program element for serving an image to a browser

3 screen according to the steps of:

4 maintaining a cache of cached images;

5 maintaining a data base of default parameters;

6 serving a document to an edit panel on said screen;

7 responsive to a user activating an insert graphic

8 command with a cursor positioned at an insertion point

9 located at any user selected position in said document

10 for serving to said browser an insert graphics text

11 screen for user selection of said graphic effects

12 parameters;

13 responsive to said user completing said selection of

14 said graphic effects parameters for serving said

LOT919990048US1   11   S/N 09/477,477

15 document to said screen with said graphic image at said

16 insertion point;

17 receiving a graphic request locator;

18 hashing said graphic request locator to form a string

19 number; and

20 examining cache for a cached image with a matching

21 string number, and if found, serving said cached image

22 to said browser screen; and, if not found, parsing said

23 graphic request locator for graphic parameters and

24 constructing from said graphic parameters and

25 selectively from said default parameters a

26 reconstructed image for serving to said browser by

27 constructing a background object, constructing a font

28 object, constructing text graphics, applying graphic

29 effects from said database, and combining said

30 background object, said font object, said text

31 graphics, and said graphic effects to form said image.